



New approach for treatment of Post Amputation pain- A case report

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Introduction

United States: Approximately 1.7 million people living with limb loss
Increasing in number
1 in 200 people in the US has had an amputation

Post Amputation syndromes

- 1) Phantom limb pain -
- 2) Phantom limb sensation
- 3) Stump pain

Phantom pain incidence – 60-80%

Conventional Treatments

Medical

Anti-convulsants, TCA's, SSRI, SNRI, Opioids, NMDA antagonists etc

Non Medical

TENS, Acupuncture, Massage, Biofeedback, Hypnosis

Surgical

Neurectomy

Stump revision

Rhizotomy / Cordectomy / Tractectomy

Tractotomy

DREZ lesion

Lobectomy

Sympathectomy

Dorsal column stimulation – conventional

Brain Stimulation

Case report

70 year old Caucasian male
Road traffic accident, 36 years ago involving right lower limb
Surgical above knee amputation
Post amputation:

- Phantom limb pain involving right foot

- Stump pain below hip

Failed Treatment modalities

- Pharmacotherapy

- Interventional therapies

- Conventional Dorsal column

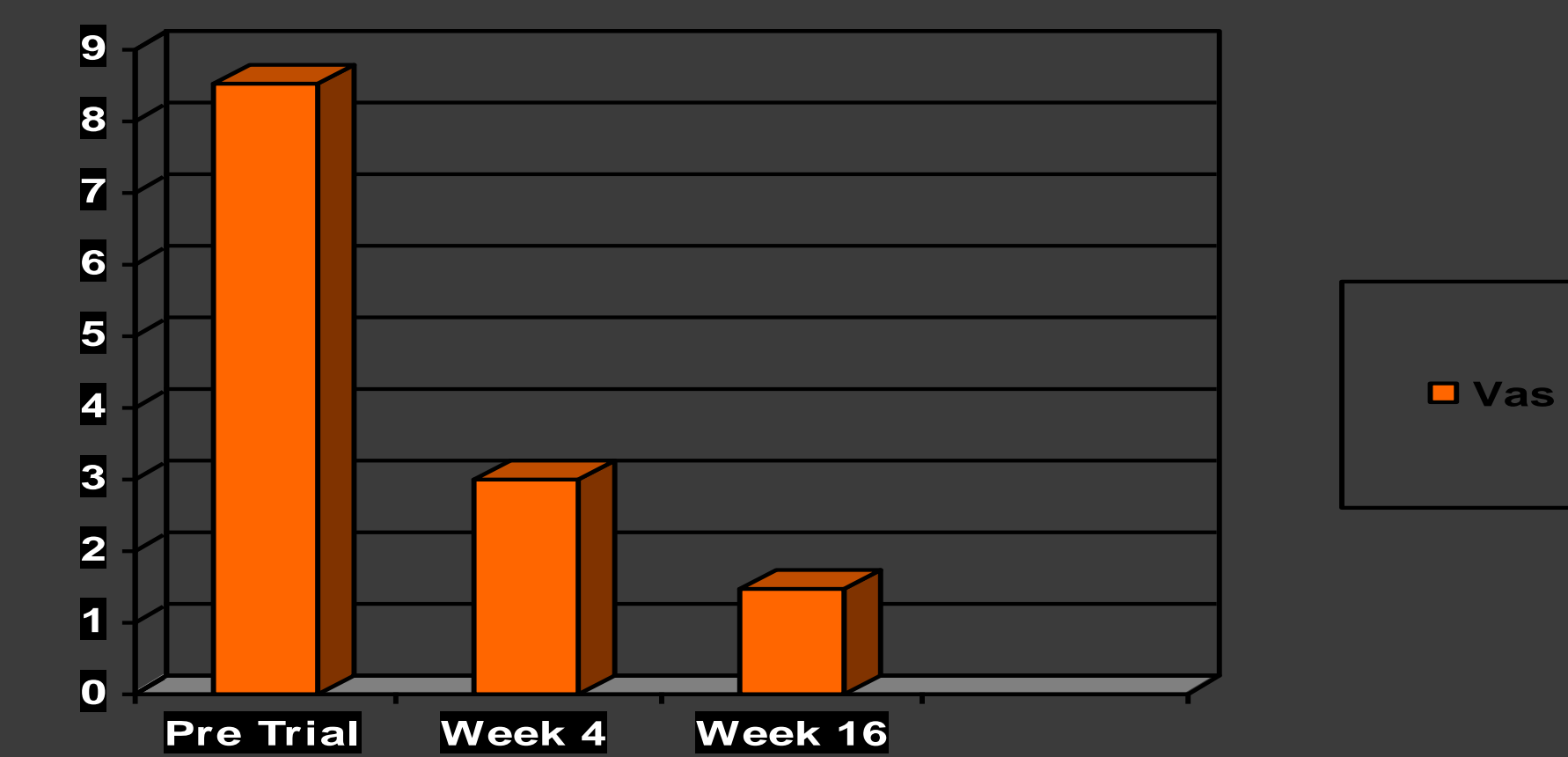
stimulation

VAS : 8-9/ 10

Medications

- TCA

- NMDA antagonists



Results

Followup period: 4 months (pre trial, 4 wks, 4months)

Weaning of all medications by 3 months

VAS reduction by 80% to 2/10

Improved sleep

Improved physical ability

Improved quality of life after 36 years

Discussion

Successful treatment where conventional treatments failed

New modality, needs further studies

Longer follow up, larger studies required

New Approach

Non- conventional stimulation

High frequency stimulation

2 leads placed in epidural space

2 Octad leads at T8/9 level

Trial stimulation – 2 weeks: successful

Full implantation

Kathryn Ziegler-Graham et al. "Estimating the Prevalence of Limb Loss in the United States - 2005 to 2050," Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 89 (2008): 422-429

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